

***Drosera gibsonii* (Droseraceae), a new Pygmy *Drosera*
from south-west Western Australia**

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Abstract

Mann, P. *Drosera gibsonii* (Droseraceae), a new Pygmy *Drosera* from south-west Western Australia. *Nyctisia* 16(2): 321–323 (2007). *Drosera gibsonii* (*Drosera* subgenus *Rorella* section *Lamprolepis*) is described from the Stirling Range National Park. Its closest relative is *Drosera silvicola* Lowrie & Carlquist and the features that distinguish this taxon from *Drosera gibsonii* are presented together with its habitat preferences and conservation status.

Introduction

Drosera gibsonii* P. Mann, *sp. nov.

Drosera silvicola affinis sed scapo usque 3 cm longa, persistens, 7-12 flores, styli 3 malvinus claviformis, pollen luteus, petala sub-roseus-malvinus.

Typus: Stirling Range National Park, Western Australia, 11 November 2006, P. Mann 06/001 (*holo*: PERTH 07220731; *iso*: CANB, K, UNE).

Fibrous rooted *herb* forming a semi-erect rosette to 1.25cm diameter. *Stem* to 4 cm long covered with the withered remains of the previous seasons' growth. *Leaves* 6–12. *Lamina* narrow elliptical, 3 mm long by 1.5 mm wide, petiole 5 mm long by 0.75 mm wide at the base, 0.5 mm wide at the apex, lower surface caniculate in cross section. *Stipule bud* ovoid, 7 mm long by 5 mm diameter, with setae. *Stipules* 3-lobed, 6.5 mm long, 3 mm wide, central lobe divided into 4 segments. *Inflorescence* singular, racemose, scape to 3 cm long, covered with minute short-stalked glands, flowers 7–12, pedicels 1.5 mm long covered in minute short-stalked glands, erect in fruit. *Calyx lobes* ovate, 2.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, glabrous, apex premorse, serrated, covered with minute short stalked glands. *Petals* pink to mauve, ovate, 8 mm long, 5 mm wide, apex slightly tapered. *Ovary* globular, 1 mm long, 1 mm diameter. *Styles* 3, mauve, 3.5 mm in length, stigma translucent white, claviform. *Stamens* 5, pink – mauve, 5 mm long, anthers and pollen yellow. *Gemmae* 1.5mm long, 1.2 mm wide, 0.75 mm thick. (Figure 1)

Otherspecimens examined. WESTERNAUSTRALIA [precise locality withheld]: Stirling Range, 25 Sep. 1994, W. Bopp 118 (K, PERTH); Stirling Range, 23 Oct. 1991, W. Greuter 23125 (?B, PERTH).

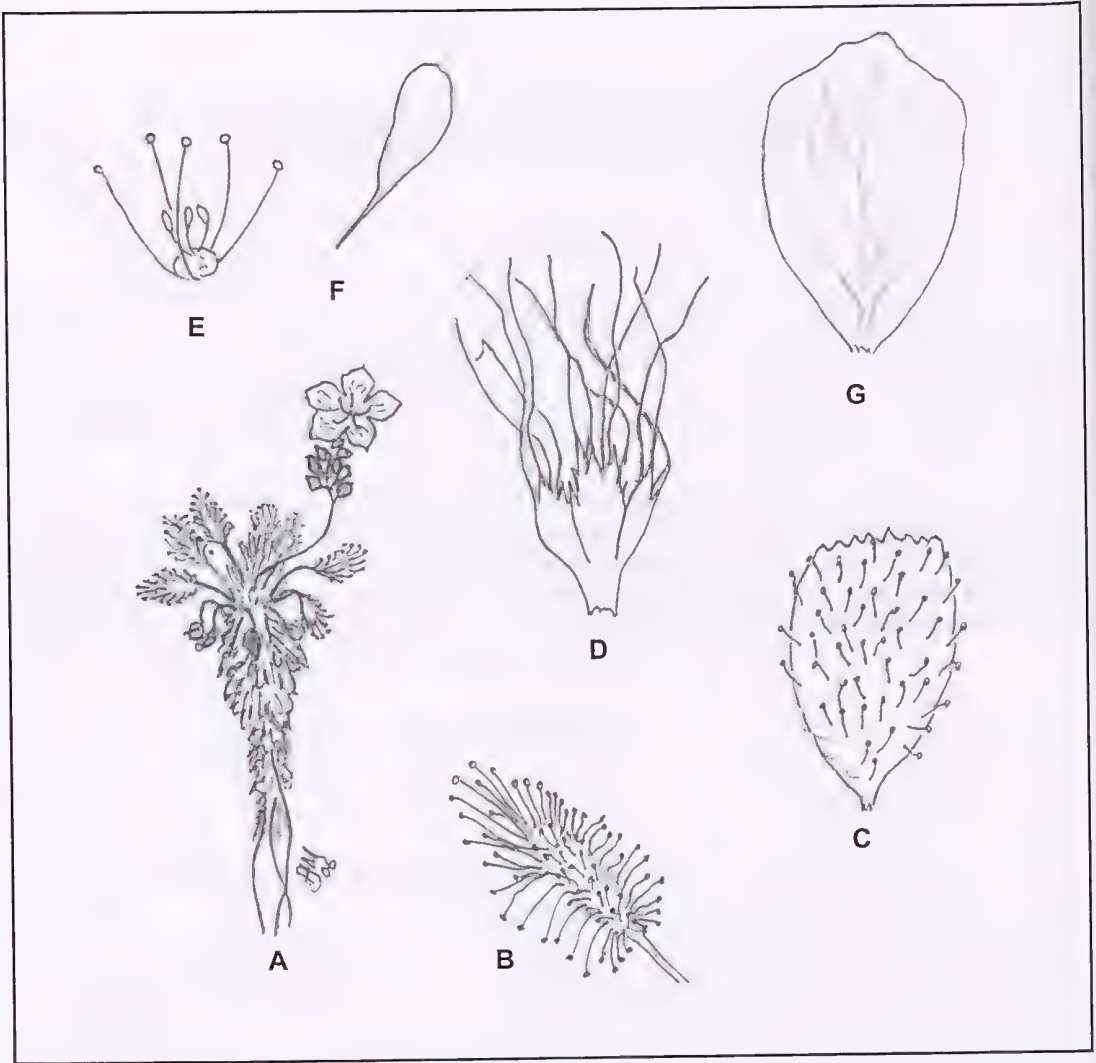


Figure 1. *Drosera gibsonii*. A – a mature flowering plant ($\times 2$); B – mature leaf ($\times 10$); C – calyx ($\times 20$); D – stipule ($\times 10$); E – stamens, ovary and styles ($\times 10$); F – style and stigma; G – petal ($\times 8$).

Distribution. Known only from the one location in Stirling Range National Park. Precise location withheld.

Habitat. In laterite gravel amongst *Allocasuarina* spp. In open heathland on an elevated hill side around 400 m altitude.

Flowering Period. November – December.

Conservation status. Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora: Priority Two. The only known population is restricted in size but within a National Park.

Etymology. *Drosera gibsonii* is named in honour of Dr Robert Gibson who has put many dedicated years into the study and classification of *Drosera* species worldwide.

Affinities. *D. gibsonii* belongs in *Drosera* subgenus *Rorella* (DC.) Diels section *Lamprolepis* Planchon, because it has rosetted leaves, prominent stipules, many-flowered scapes and it reproduces asexually by gemmae. *Drosera silvicola* Lowrie & Carlquist is considered here to be the species most similar to *D. gibsonii* due to the shared characteristics of the semi-erect rosette, leaf lamina narrowly elliptical/lanceolate, scapes with short-stalked glands and pink to mauve petals. The two taxa differ in the features presented in the following synoptic key.

Key to species

1. Scapes to 8 cm or more, flowers up to 20, styles red, stigma acuminate, pollen white, sepals apex acute, serrate, petals dark pink with reddish base, semi erect in fruit, old scapes persistent**D. silvicola**
1. Scapes to 3 cm, flowers 7–12, styles mauve, stigma translucent white, claviform, pollen yellow, sepals apex premorse, petals pink to mauve, erect in fruit, old scapes non persistent**D. gibsonii**

Acknowledgements

I would especially like to thank Mark Stuart for his invaluable help with the paper preparation and Dr. Neville Marchant for his mentoring, editing and advice.

References

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